(Numismatic Scrapbook Chicago, 1L]

Numismatic Scrapbook

LEE F. HEWITT, Publisher

1650 CATALPA AVENUE

CHICAGO

June 7, 1937

Mr. Howland Wood American Numismatic Society New York City.

Dear Sir:

I have been informed by Mr. Guttag of your city that you have facilities for the photographing of coins.

Mr. Guttag is sending me from time to time specimens of new or recent issues for illustrating in my publication. At times the delay in getting the coins, then the photo and finally the cuts made make it difficult to make the dead-line.

He suggested that perhaps you would make the photographs right there in New York and thereby eliminate lost time.

If you are in a position to handle this work will you please let me know what you customeraly charge for a 7x5 or 8x10 print.

Yours truly,

Lee F. Hewitt

Mr. Lee F. Hewitt, 1650 Catalpa Ave. Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Hewitt:

We have the facilities for making all sorts of photographs of coins. We photograph only when we have sufficient number to do so, sometimes once a week, sometimes every other week.

We, however, cannot promise to do things instantly unless you want to pay the price, as we have to have a man come in to do the work. We formerly had a man here who did, but he passed away a few months ago.

We charge \$3.50 for a 5 x 7 negative, and try to get as many coins as possible on the same negative. Of course it is impossible to get copper or silver on one exposure. As most coins have to have both sides shown, it would require two negatives. If there are any considerable number of coins, you can see the grice per coin would be much cheaper than if only one or two were done.

We sometimes photograph coins for several people on the same negative and charge pro rata. If you care to have us do this work, you can instruct Mr. Guttag to send the coins to us.

Very truly yours,

Curator

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LEE F. HEWITT, Publisher 1650 CATALPA AVENUEN 1476 Gregory St. CHICAGO

June 13, 1937

Howland Wood 156th and Broadway New York. N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Received your letter regarding photographing of coins. The price sounds allright altho slightly higher than what I have paid here, the few cents are of no consequence. The only thing is that I have been getting silver and copper photographed on one plate and the results, while not of the very best, are sufficiently good to serve my purpose.

I am enclosing a portion of a 8x10 plate that was made of mixed silver, nickel and copper coins. If you can obtain equal results from mixed coins it would be o.k. with me to make plates in that manner.

As I perfer using illustrations with a black background I will ask Mr. Guttag to send you TWO SPECIMENS of each coin so the obv. and rev. and can be photographed together. It is very difficult to cut - out the coins and piece them together without a streak showing in the finished halftone.

Yours truly,

Mr. Lee F. Hewitt, 1650 Catalpa Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Hewitt:

Your letter just at hand. The photographs you sent on are excellent. The only thing is they may be a little too contrasty. Our phographs we try to keep down so they are not quite as contrasty and have a little richer tone. This is all a matter of personal opinion. We used to phograph by daylight but lately have been doing about everything by electric light.

I am enclosing a couple of samples of some things just done. These are phographed on glass so that no shade shows. In fact, we do everything this way.

If you wish on a black background we can do it just as well as not but I probably would not be able to phosograph things for you and for someone else on the same negative. This is simply a matter of reducing expenses now and then.

Studying the photographs you went on I should judge whoever did it probably air-brushed the pieces slightly, especially the copper, so as to bring it to about the same tone as the other pieces. I might be wrong.

Suppose we have a try at this and if everything is all right, well and good. At any rate, a try will do no harm.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks encl.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Received your letter and the sample photo. Thanks. I may take on e of them and have a small cut made just to see how the

white background works out.

I seldom out-line cuts as it is rather expensive; and as you probably realize my publication at present is operating at a considerable loss; therefore group plates rather than individual cuts must be used for economy. I will instruct Mr. Guttag to send the coins to you when there is time enough to get them done, otherwise ISII have to take care of them here.

Yours,

Lee F. Hewitt 1476 Gregory St.









Mr. Howland Wood Amer. Num. Society 156th and Broadway New York, N. Y.